

Message Text

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64

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 NEA-14 RSC-01

CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 CEQ-02

COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06

FEAE-00 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08

JUSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-02 DRC-01 /287 W

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R 111359Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4618

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 6366

FROM US DEL LOS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: STRAITS

1. AFTER EXAMINING SOVIET PLENARY SPEECH WE WERE CONCERNED BECAUSE OF SEVERAL REFERENCES TO TRANSIT OF VESSELS BUT COMPLETE OMISSION OF ANY REFERENCE TO OVERFLIGHT. ACCORDINGLY WE REQUESTED MEETING WITH SOVIETS ON URGENT BASIS.

2. AMBASSADOR STEVENSON, MR. FRENCH AND COMMANDER AKE MET 10 JULY WITH DR ROMANOV, ACTING HEAD OF DELEGATION, AND GENERAL BARABOLYA. DR ROMANOV ASSURED US THAT THE LACK OF REFERENCE TO OVERFLIGHT WAS IN NO WAY INTENDED AS ANY INDICATION OF A CHANGE IN THEIR POSITION WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS BEING THE SAME AS IT HAS BEEN SINCE THEIR ARTICLES WERE TABLED. HE STATED THAT THEIR DRAFT SPEECH HAD ORIGINALLY CONTAINED SEVERAL SENTENCES CONCERNING OVERFLIGHT BUT THAT THESE HAD BEEN STRICKEN BY THE AMBASSADOR PRIOR TO DELIVERY
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ALONG WITH MANY OTHER PORTIONS SOLELY IN THE INTEREST OF BREVITY.

IN FACT HE STATED THAT HE HAD NOT REALIZED THAT THEIR SPEECH HAD BEEN DEVOID OF ANY REFERENCE TO OVERFLIGHT UNTIL WE HAD RAISED THE QUESTION AND HE HAD AGAIN EXAMINED THE TEXT. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM AMBASSADOR STEVENSON, DR ROMANOV ADVISED THAT THEY WERE IN FACT ADHERING TO THEIR POSITION ON BOTH OVERFLIGHT AND SUBMERGED TRANSIT IN ALL DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS.

3. ON A SPEARATE MATTER THE SOVIETS INDICATED THAT THEY WILL BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INFORMAL DRAFTING GROUP WHICH DR. AGUILAR INTENDS TO CONVENE SHORTLY.
STEVENSON

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30 JUN 2005

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